

CLASSIFICATION <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>		
COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT	
TOPIC <u>VDA Hq No 400 at Augustusbad</u>		
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT		
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED <u>20 August 1954</u>	
REFERENCES		
PAGES <u>3</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u>1 - one sketch</u>	<u>with legend</u>
REMARKS		
This is UNEVALUATED		

1. Organization

In late May 1954, the following headquarters and units were assigned to the VDA Hq No 400 in Augustusbad:

Headquarters
 10th Training Co
 15th Training Co
 17th Training Co
 Training course for motor transport personnel
 Training course for ration supply personnel

The 10th and 15th Cos consisted of 3 platoons each. A NCO training course was assigned to the 15th Training Co. Between 27 January and 15 May, the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 16th Training Cos were filled up to their authorized strength of 100 recruits and detached to the school in Pirna for completing basic training.

The 10th Training Co which mostly consisted of members of the SED, FDJ and Athletic and Technical Association (GST) was to be brought up to its authorized strength by 1 June and subsequently assigned to the following headquarters: 3 men to the pilot school of the Aeroclub in Cottbus, 2 men to the VDA Hq in Cottbus, and approximately equal numbers of personnel to the training courses for motor transport personnel, ration supply personnel, signal personnel and a mechanics' course with the Aeroclub in Bautzen. 1

2. Quartering Facilities

The headquarters was billeted in the former hospital in Augustusbad. The billeting area was subdivided into Objects I and II. Object I housed the Hq No 400 and Object II housed the Glider Department of the Ministry of the Interior. The latter acts as

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co-ordinating agency between the GST and VDA. Object I also housed 4 signal officers and 11 EM of signal units of the Armeegruppe Nord of the KVP. These personnel who were administratively assigned to the Hq No 400 fitted radio sets into Molotov-type trucks in the Sachsenwerk in Radeberg. 2

3. Personnel Strength

In early May 1954, the following personnel strength was known:

headquarters	8 officers, 8 NCOs, 20 EM
10th Training Co	1 officer 7 " 75 "
15th Training Co	1 " 7 " 90 "
17th Training Co	1 " 1 " 33 "
NCO course	2 " 30 "
course for motor transport personnel	8 " 20 " 40 "
course for ration supply personnel	1 " 9 " 3 "

Total: 20 officers 60 NCOs 290 EM

The strength of the training companies continuously changed because of new arrivals.

The following personnel were known:

Chief	Major Gottfried Beyer
Deputy and political officer	Senior Lieutenant Schubert (fnu)
in charge of finance department	Sub-Lieutenant Leistner (fnu)
in charge of dispensary	Sub-Lieutenant Simon (fnu)
chief of 10th Training Co	Lieutenant Walter Hopp
chief of drivers' course	Senior Lieutenant Sehlinger (fnu)
political officer of drivers' course	" " Wagner Hans
driving instructors	Lieutenant Geiger (fnu)
	" Stanka (fnu)
	" Bergder (fnu)
	Sub-Lieutenant Ring (fnu)
	" Geitner (fnu)
chief of course for ration supply personnel	" Funk (fnu)

4. Weapons

All subordinate units of the Hq No 400 had a central ordnance depot where the following weapons were stored:

1 model M28 light machine gun
100 model 41 submachine guns
50 model 44 carbines
16 model FN 9 pistols

About 12,000 rounds of carbine ammunition and 30,000 to 35,000 rounds of submachine gun ammunition were stored in two ammunition bunkers in Object I.

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5. Motor Vehicles

The headquarters was equipped with the following motor vehicles:

- 12 model H3A trucks
- 1 model H6 truck
- 1 ZIS 3-axle truck
- 1 ZIS 2-axle truck
- 1 model Iifa sedan
- 1 ambulance
- 6 350-cubic meter motorcycles

There was a fuel dump with about 30 x 200-liter barrels with fuel and lubricant and a motor vehicle repair shop. The motor vehicles were filled by means of hand-operated pumps.

6. Training Activity

Duty roster of 10th Training Co:

0600	reveille
0800 to 1100	military basic training
1100 to 1200	athletics
1200 to 1300	instruction
1500 to 1800	instruction
1900 to 2100	private study
On Wednesday between 0800 to 1800	field exercise was usually held.

Basic training: formation drill, rifle drill, goose step, saluting.

Field training: line of skirmishers, file of riflemen, patrol activity.

Physical training: cross-country run, clearing of obstacles, gymnastics, outdoor sports.

Topics of theoretical instruction: ordnance and ballistics, tactics, interior duty, political indoctrination.

After 8 weeks of training, the recruits had to pass an examination. The 10th Training Co held this examination only after 17 weeks of training as the company continuously had to detach guard personnel and thus had not enough time for training purposes. The mood among the troops left much to be desired in particular because of the bad food. Therefore, the personnel spent a large portion of their pay for purchasing additional rations at the HO stores.

1. Comment. The Hq No 400 at Augustusbad is charged with the training of personnel probably scheduled to be assigned to the technical bases of the VDA. The flying and technical personnel of the Aeroclubs receive their military basic training probably at the school in Pirna/Sonnenstein before being detached for flight training to the Aeroclubs and for technical training to School No 500 in Kamenz.

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2. Comment. For layout sketch of billeting area of School No 400 of the VDA at Augustusbad, see Annex.

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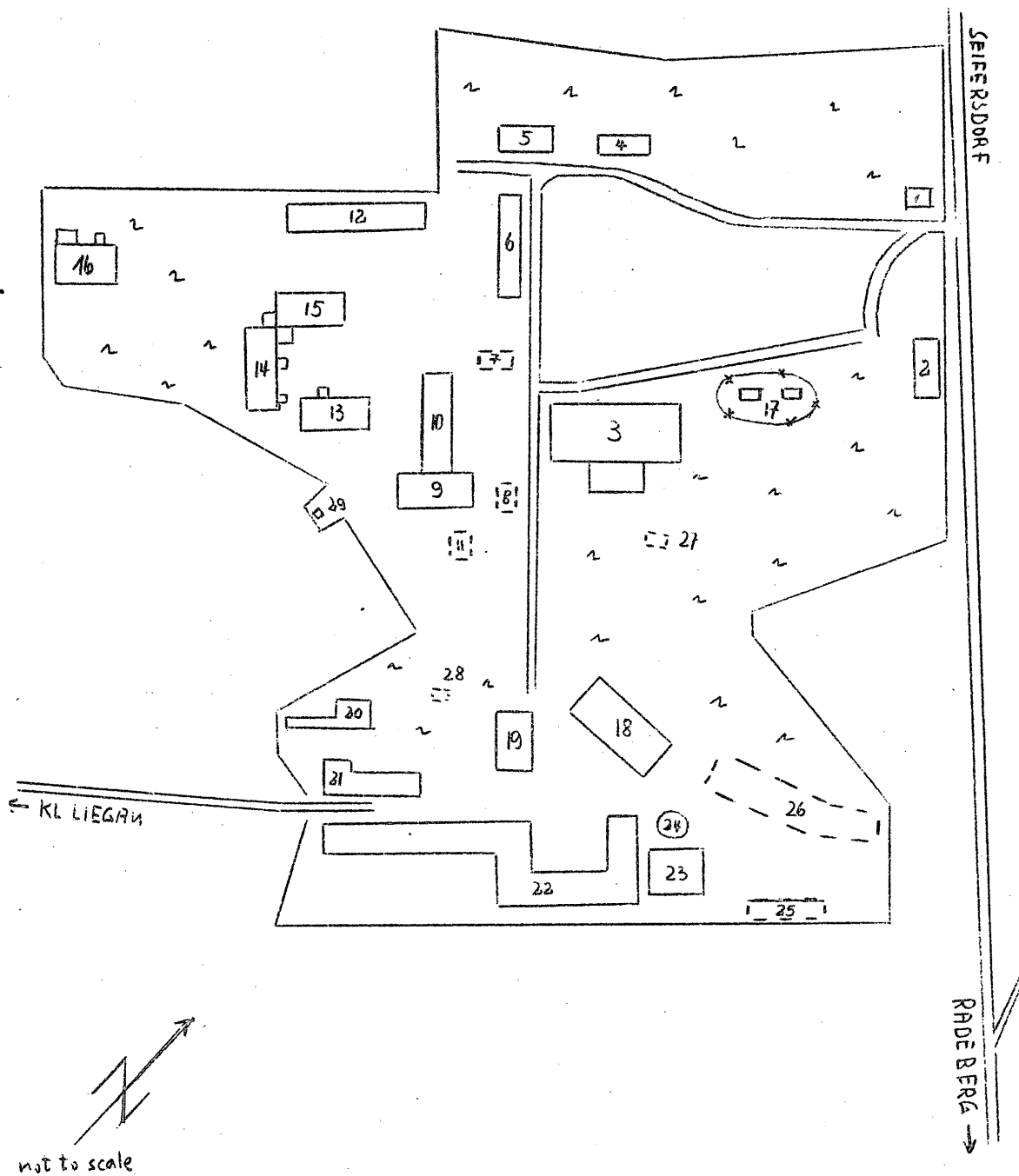
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Annex

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Hq No 400 of VDA at Augustusbad



For legend, see next page.

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Legend.VDA Hq No 400 at Augustusbad

- 1 Brick guardhouse
- 2 Two-story brick building housing dispensary, finance department and HO
- 3 Four-story building with billets of 10th and 15th Training Cos, kitchen and messhalls, and weapons stockroom
- 4 Coal shed
- 5 Guardhouse with guards checking personnel and motor vehicles at entrance gate
- 6 Quarters building of motor transport training personnel
- 7 Garbage dump
- 8 Fire pond
- 9 Motor vehicle repair shop
- 10 Building housing motorcycle repair shop, carpenter's shop and fire department
- 11 Fuel dump
- 12 Garage
- 13 Two-story headquarters building, 25 x 10 meters
- 14 Building housing billets for personnel of ration supply course and central weapons storeroom
- 15 NCO quarters and club
- 16 Billets of unmarried officers
- 17 Two ammunition bunkers
- 18 Half destroyed building, under improvement for Glider Department of Ministry of the Interior
- 19 Glider Department of Ministry of the Interior
- 20 Gymnasium and bowling-alley
- 21 Motion picture theater
- 22 Barracks building, half destroyed
- 23 Heating plant
- 24 Well, drinking water supply for object
- 25 Old mud-bath
- 26 Old coal shed, not used
- 27 Water tank
- 28 Well
- 29 Pumping station

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